

II. RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Claims 1-2, 15-37 and 42-43 are canceled. Claim 38 has been amended to introduce amendments discussed with Examiner Unger to place into condition for allowance. Claims 3-6 have been reintroduced. No claims have been added. Claims 3-14 and 38-41 are pending.

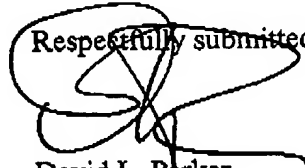
A telephonic interview was held on March 1, 2006. The Examiner indicated that claims limited to EGF receptor would be in condition for allowance, but the reintroduction of other species would require additional search, *etc.*, which would require the filing of an RCE.

Applicants are hereby submitting the claims, now directed specifically to applications of the claimed method to the EGF receptor, in order to proceed with the allowance of this species. Claims to other receptors and therapies have been cancelled without prejudice. Applicants have taken the liberty to reintroduce claims 3-6 directed to other types of "non-tumor skin, mucosal or hair follicle tissue samples" (see claim 38). These claims do not appear to raise "new search" issues, as allowed claim 38 is generic as to the species set forth in claims 3-6.

Applicants believe that the foregoing remarks fully respond to all outstanding matters for this application. Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of all claims be withdrawn so they may pass to issuance.

Should the Examiner desire to sustain any of the rejections discussed in relation to this Response, the courtesy of a telephonic conference between the Examiner and the undersigned attorney at 512-536-3055 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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